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**Gordon Metal Co.,**  
Richmond, Va.

## CHICKEN VITALITY; ITS IMPORTANCE

Poultry Breeding in Virginia and  
How to Keep It Going  
Healthy.

### SUGGESTIONS THAT ARE WISE

There Is Big Money in the  
Chicken Business if Well  
Conducted.

BY W. E. SCHAFF.

Have you ever stopped to think what we expect from a good hen? What we call a good hen is one which will lay, say, from 125 to 150 eggs per year, or in rare cases more. Now 150 eggs will weigh about five times as much as the average hen, consequently we have to avoid or fight shy of causes tending to lower the vitality of our flocks. Modern poultry-keeping makes larger and larger demands on the strength of the hens. The wild jungle fowl, from which our domestic fowls have come, laid a litter of eggs (about twelve) in the natural mating season (spring) and then hatched her eggs and raised her young to maturity, with which she completed her year's work. Our modern hen is not only expected to lay about twelve dozen eggs per year, but we also want the eggs to be strong in fertility and hatch chickens having as strong vitality as the parent stock. Now, one cause of lowered vitality amongst our fowls is too close inbreeding. We all know how hard it is to kill for market a weakling who is or will be a fine show specimen. Still this is the only way, as a bird that at any time of its growing period is weak or sick should not be used for breeding purposes.

Another cause of lowered vitality in a great many flocks is the use of pullets instead of hens for breeding purposes. If we use pullets that are fully matured, I personally believe the vitality in the chicks will be just as great as with hens of two years or over, but here's the rub. By breeding from pullets the breeder is under taking to reproduce from fowls that have not yet reached maturity and that, presumably, because of their well known qualities of fall and winter laying, may have lowered their vitality before the breeding season.

Continued breeding generation after generation from pullets instead of hens may have a tendency to shorten the normal length of life of the race of fowls, and, at the same time, to lower its native vigor, while breeding from mature fowls two or three years old should tend to lengthen it and a consequent increase in vitality.

Congestion and crowding of the breeding stock by keeping large numbers on limited areas is without doubt one of the most serious causes of loss of vitality. Lack of exercise is a natural consequence of congestion and an accompaniment of overfeeding.

Too much to eat and too little to do appears to be one of the most common sources of difficulty in securing fertile eggs with strong hatching power, capable of producing vigorous chickens. The dangers of overfeeding may be greatly reduced and the health of your flock promoted by furnishing for the breeding flocks a deep litter of straw or other scratching material, and feeding all grain in this litter, thus making them scratch for a living (same as we do) at the same time providing them with as large a range as possible to encourage exercise in the fresh air all the year round.


**Survival of the Fittest.**

The first principle to be adopted in the successful handling of poultry should be to eliminate weak stock before we see it. This applies at all stages of development from the baby chick to the mature fowl. The chick which shows physical weakness at any time should be killed or be discarded and permanently marked and kept apart from the strong stock, later to be marketed if worthy. A chicken may overcome weakness so far as external appearances show and still retain the inherited tendency to weakness. It is well known that certain physical weaknesses are transmissible from parents to offspring, the best safeguard, therefore, to the breeder, is to stock that shows or has shown weakness. One of the best and most satisfactory ways of marking weak fowls is to use Diamond dyes, thus distinguishing it quickly from the others, until the feathers have molted.

The action of a fowl, no matter of what variety or age, is the best indication of its physical condition. The physically weak is inactive and "dopey," and is just as likely to squat as to stand. It does not scratch or forage actively. It is the last to get off the perch in the morning and the first to go to roost at night, and is frequently found on the perch during the day. The loudness and the frequency of the crow of the male, or the song or cackle of the female is a reliable indication of strength. The weak fowl seldom crows or sings, and is less likely to do so when in the presence of a strong individual of the same sex. Gallantry on the part of the male is shown in his generosity and consideration for the females, as indicated by his calling them and giving to them the tenderest morsels to eat. This is only one of the surest indications of vigor. In a vigorous part of the male. Lastly, in a vigorous fowl the eyes always look bright, clear and round, and aforesaid bright eyes are always on the lookout for some unwary grasshopper or other insect who wants to depart this life. And help getting one of the \$5,000,000 eggs which are consumed daily in the United States. Here's hoping your vigorous hens will help furnish them. Send the others that don't to market is my advice.

### Marion Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Marion, Va., August 20.—Dr. Robert Rice, of Richmond, is at home on his way to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Rice.  
Mrs. Kate Barkdale and daughter, of Norfolk, and Mrs. Sallie McCune and children, of Rogersville, Tenn., are here on a visit of some weeks to Mrs. C. A. Miller on Cherry Street.  
Mrs. Anne Kling and children, of Roanoke, are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Carrier.  
Mrs. E. L. Grubbs and her niece, Miss Maude Wilson, of Kansas, are here on a visit of some weeks to Mrs. C. A. Miller on Cherry Street.  
Bishop Beverly D. Tucker, of the Episcopal Church, preached here last Friday night.  
Mrs. B. H. Grubbs, a month's visit to her sister, Mrs. George W. Richardson, left for her home in Bessemer, Ala., last Saturday.  
Miss Venable and her family have spent the past ten days with Mr. Venable's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Venable.  
George W. Richardson, of Roanoke, recently spent a few days visiting his parents, Harlow Hendricks, of Raleigh, N. C., who is in town this week.



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The foundation of all great fortunes is savings. After the foundation has been laid the superstructure may be rapidly developed by speculation and bold enterprise, but the foundation must be laid through the slow process of accumulation by the careful saving of money.

Suppose every family in the United States should start to save five cents a day for each of its members, and steadily accumulate that amount of money during an entire year. If 80,000,000 people saved five cents a day each every business day for a year, the nation would have as a result of this accumulation \$1,200,000,000 for investment. That sum is almost twice as much as the entire bonds and other securities held by the national banks of the United States. It would be sufficient to finance the cost of a foreign war of the size of the recent conflict between Japan and Russia.

But our great rich, with their stupendous incomes, are setting a rapid pace in lavish expenditures, and their example results in multitudes of people living up to the limit or beyond the limit of their income. As a matter of fact, the investing power of the United States is much less than its producing power warrants. Economy would do more for us as a nation than even all the product of our mines.

**OLIVER J. SANDS, President.**  
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**WALLER HOLLADAY, Asst. Cashier.**  
**D. W. DURRETT, Asst. Cashier.**

## ROBERT BURNS ON GOOD ROAD TOPIC

(Continued From First Page.)

It is in the interest of owners of automobiles, and with a great deal of gusto they declare that nobody ever heard of good roads agitation until a year or two ago, when the automobiles came in fashion. That simply shows that the old fogies do not know what they are talking about, and unfortunately most of their hearers are as densely ignorant. Some of the best roads in the world were built in France and England and Sweden and Denmark and Italy 100 or more years before any of these old fogies were born, and they have been a constant source of revenue to the people who live on them ever since they were constructed.

More than 100 years ago, Bobby Burns, the famous Scotch poet advocated good roads. He had wrestled with some roads in Bonnie Scotland that were, perhaps, on a par with some of those red mud discharges to civilization that I traveled over in Albemarle county a week or more ago. I do not know that Burns made any speeches in favor of good roads, but a friend of mine has reminded me that he wrote a few lines on the subject, and here is what he had to say after a bitter experience:

"I'm now arrived, thanks to the gods!  
Thro' pathways rough and muddy,  
A certain sign that mairk'ns roads  
Is in this people's study.  
Altho' I'm not w' Scriptures cram'd,  
I'm sure the Bible says  
That heedless sinners shall be damn'd  
Unless they mend their ways."

Let it be remembered that Burns was the writer of "Tam O'Shanter," and no one can read that remarkable story without reaching the conclusion that its author was something of an authority on good roads. He deplored their absence more than a century ago, and in his choicest language he deplored the fate of the fellow who voles against their construction.

Highway Commissioner Wilson, Dr. Eggleston, of the educational department, Special Agent Pennybacker, of the United States good roads department, and several emissaries from The Times-Dispatch office have canvassed Old Virginia in the interest of better highways, but none of them have ever made a better speech than that of Burns recorded above.

### Wadesboro Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Wadesboro, N. C., August 20.—Miss Sallie Bent, of Kershaw, S. C., is visiting her uncle, J. H. Benton.  
Miss Daisy Pinkston returned Friday from Rocky River Springs, after spending several weeks at that popular resort.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse M. Howard returned to their home at Concord Saturday after spending a week with Mr. Howard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard.  
Edward McLean, of Gibson, spent Saturday and Sunday with his cousin, A. S. Morrison.  
Mrs. C. C. Fairley and daughter, Mrs. E. E. Frazier, of Norfolk, are visiting at the home of Fairley's daughter, Mrs. George Parker.  
Miss Clara Richardson and Clara Ashcraft, of Monroe, arrived Saturday to spend a week with Miss Richardson's mother, Mrs. C. C. Bennett.  
Miss Louise and Lillian Stallings, of Henderson, are visiting Miss Benton.  
Miss Jennie Doak Plunkett left Saturday afternoon to spend ten days at Rocky River Springs.  
Mrs. J. J. Dunlap returned to Ansonville Saturday to visit her sister, Mrs. W. J. Smith.  
Miss Minnie Byrd and her sister, Mrs. Lela B. Henry, of Littleville, returned home Thursday, after spending quite a while at Blowing Rock, Grandfather Mountain and other resorts in the Western part of the State.  
Miss F. Allen returned from Rocky River Springs Sunday.  
Mrs. M. M. Mann and Mrs. Eugene Little and daughter returned Saturday from Rocky River Springs, after spending some time there.  
Miss Mollie Austin, of Charlotte, and Lloyd Hill, of Monroe, are spending time with Mrs. T. W. Austin.  
Miss Angelyn Fetter, after spending some time visiting in Charlotte, Concord and Statesville, returned home Friday.  
Little Misses Nora and Mary Fladger are visiting Grady and Rosaline Koryo.  
Miss Ella Rice left this morning for Jackson Springs to spend a week. She will also visit her brother, G. W. Two, of Carthage, before returning.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Dunlap, of Ansonville, returned Friday from Blowing Rock to spend two weeks with their daughter, Mrs. Mark Squires.  
Misses J. J. and Mary Burns are spending the week at Rocky River Springs.  
Miss Goldie Mills left Friday night for Spartanburg to spend a week with a party of tourists for Niagara Falls and points in Canada.  
Miss Elizabeth Stanback, of Mount Gilead, and Miss Laura Stanback, of Salisbury, are visiting their aunt, Mrs. Judd Dockery.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Boylin are visiting relatives in Newton.

### Amherst Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Amherst, Va., August 20.—Miss Anna de LaTour, of Lynchburg, is this week the guest of Mr. and Mrs. William Kinlock, of Amherst, near the village.  
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bowman and daughter, of Alexandria, are this week visiting relatives in Amherst.  
Miss Mamie Burke, who has been spending some time with her cousin, Miss Carrie Reay, has gone to New York City.  
Miss Anna de LaTour, of Alexandria, is this week visiting Misses Mabel and Garnett Kinlock.  
Miss Reed, of Blackstone, has returned home after a visit to her sister, Mrs. J. M. Bowman.  
Miss Mary Scott, who has been the guest

### Scottsville Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Scottsville, Va., August 20.—George T. Hogg, of Richmond, was here this week visiting relatives.  
Brown Powers and Miss Annie Powers, of Richmond, are visiting their grandmother, Mrs. D. P. Powers.  
G. Mason Dillard, of Norfolk, spent several days with his family here this week.  
Miss Alice Walcott, of Richmond, is visiting Miss Annie V. Jones.  
Mr. Harwood and Miss Harwood, of Richmond, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Warner T. Wood.  
W. S. Dabney, of the university, was here this week visiting friends.  
Louis Johnson, of Howardsville, was here in town several days ago.  
Mrs. A. G. Bell, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. D. P. Powers, has returned to her home in Alta Vista.  
R. I. Wade, of Richmond, was here this week visiting his mother, Mrs. M. M. Blair.  
T. W. Heath has returned from Silver City, N. C., to see his father, Mayor T. S. Heath, who is quite ill.  
Master Reuben Martin, of Richmond, is visiting his aunt, Miss Catherine Martin.  
Misses Marietta Powers and Mary L. Bell will spend next week with Mrs. A. G. Bell in Alta Vista.  
John Briggs is visiting his uncle, John A. Briggs, in Richmond.  
W. J. Keen, of Norwood, was here this week visiting his parents.  
Mrs. L. C. Schwickler, and little daughter, of Richmond, are visiting at the home of H. Faulconer on East Main Street.  
Miss Kate and Master Garland Murrell, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wood, have returned to their home in Lynchburg.

### Pocahontas Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Pocahontas, Va., August 20.—Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Brown, of Upperville, are in the city this week the guests of their daughter, Miss Mary Brown, of Upperville.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Ewing, of Richmond, are in the city this week the guests of their daughter, Miss Mary Ewing, of Upperville.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Poole, of Williamsburg, are in the city this week the guests of their daughter, Miss Mary Poole, of Upperville.  
Miss Alice Dennen, who has been the guest of friends in Salem and Roanoke for the past several weeks, has returned to her home in Upperville.  
Miss Bertha Deaton visited friends in Bramwell, Va., this week.  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Dennen have for their guest Miss Louise Flanagan, of Salem.  
Mrs. Priehard and children, of Gary, Va., are the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Housaker and daughter, of Ashland, who were here this week, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. Keen, who has been spending his vacation at Covington, has returned home.  
Mrs. Minnie Lawrence, who has been spending some time with her brother, John Cooke, at Bluefield, W. Va., returned home Tuesday.  
Mr. and Mrs. Dominic McLaughlin and child, of Fayette, Va., were in the city this week the guests of relatives.  
Dr. Stuart L. Craig, of New York City, was here this week the guest of friends.  
Dr. Craig was for a number of years located in this city.  
Kent Ward is in Wytheville spending several weeks with his parents.

### Durham Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Durham, N. C., August 20.—Senator Thomas P. Gore, of Oklahoma, one of the most prominent men of the country now, will be in Durham at an early date to make an address.  
The charming home of Mr. and Mrs. F. Hill is now the scene of much love and animation. Their daughter, Miss Douglas Hill, is entertaining this week Misses Louise Hawkins and Annie Louise Ratcliffe, of Huntington, W. Va.; Miss Emma Lockett, of Winston-Salem, and Miss Mary Durham, of Charlotte-Hollins Institute girls and schoolmates of Miss Hill. A number of entertainments have been planned for their enjoyment, and the stay in Durham will be one round of pleasure.

### Surry Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Surry, Va., August 20.—Mrs. J. B. Green and children are spending the month of August with Mrs. Green's sister, Miss Coe, of Smithfield, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. G. F. Clarke.  
Mrs. Chandler, of Portsmouth, is the guest of Mrs. D. C. Baker.  
Professor and Mrs. Farmer are spending some time in the home of E. C. Adams.  
Miss Lella Goodrich, after a two weeks' visit to her father, has returned to Richmond.  
Miss Susie G. Butler, after a visit of several weeks with her aunt, Mrs. P. J. Roberts, has returned to her home in Bowling Green.  
Miss Marjorie Warren, the guest of Mrs. Donna Chapman, left this week for Dendron.

### Norwood Social News.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Norwood, Va., August 20.—Mrs. J. S. Roberts, Mrs. E. B. Bolton and Misses Etta and Thelma Ballou, of Richmond, are the guests of Mrs. W. A. Roberts and daughter.  
A large crowd of the younger people from here attended a lawn party at Mrs. J. S. Gay's on Thursday night.  
Miss Josephine Robertson, of Richmond, is visiting Miss Alice Callaway.  
Hugh L. Robertson spent last week with his daughter, Mrs. Abdon Agoo, of Lynchburg.  
Mr. and Mrs. James Burkes and son, of Richmond, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Carriero on Monday and Tuesday.  
Miss Elsie Lacy, of Richmond, is visiting in the home of Mrs. H. L. Robertson.  
Miss Winnie Bolton returned on Tuesday from several days' visit to friends at Gladstone.  
Miss Josephine Stevenson, after spending some time in the home of Mrs. S. R. Bolton, returned to Lynchburg on Sunday.  
Miss Virginia Kidd is visiting friends in Lynchburg.  
S. J. McGuire, of Lynchburg, has been the guest of his sister, Mrs. J. L. Kidd.

## NOTES BY THE WAY FROM EVERYWHERE

(Continued From First Page.)

cashier of the First State Bank of that town. He is also a farmer on a small scale. I had a letter from him a week or two ago, in which he asked me for information about the cultivation of alfalfa, and I told him all I knew about it, which was a whole lot. In replying to my volume of reliable information, Patterson writes me as follows:

"I am going into the growing of alfalfa on some lots I have here instead of selling them or putting houses on them and renting. If I should meet with success in my smaller efforts I will next year go into it on a more extended scale, for I firmly believe there is good money in it even on a small scale. I keep a horse, and by this means he will be self-supporting and will have enough to sell for profit. Wish you could see the old field I have developed by green crops and which is now ready for preparation for sowing the alfalfa. I want to show these people that I can farm on the intensive scale and teach them something."

Now that is a real cheering piece of information. Think of it. A banker who can build houses on land and rent them out or sell them for a big profit prefers to do experimental farm work that he may show the good folks of a mighty good section how to turn a profitable trick. Men like Patterson ought to be encouraged. What a pity it is that we have so few of them. At least thirteen young farmers I am vain enough to think that the Industrial Section has been instrumental in enlisting Patterson.

**Pioneer in Ginseng.**

J. A. Cheape, of Charlottesville, formerly of Canada, and so devoted to his native land that he reads only Toronto papers, and thereby keeps out of date, is a genius being the inventor and manufacturer of a little adding and subtracting machine that a man can carry in his vest pocket and add and subtract while he walks. Cheape is also a farmer, and the other day he told me that he was the pioneer grower in Virginia of ginseng. However, he is not growing the roots any more. He says some kind of disease that looked like the San Jose scale, which attacks peach trees, got into his ginseng gardens, near Charlottesville, and played havoc with the same. He thinks I ought to tell about this, because some people who read my ginseng story of a few weeks ago might be seduced into the ginseng industry, which, he thinks, is a little risky when attempted in the red lands.

**Grape Culture.**

In the same neighborhood I had the pleasure of several conferences with a fine old Virginia gentleman who is a Presbyterian elder, and at the same time is a very pronounced anti-prohibitionist. In his eloquent arguments against prohibition he laid great stress upon the "wonderful medicinal feature of the controversy. He is an old-time Democrat, who always rides five miles on election days to vote the straight party ticket, even though his Satanlike Majesty may be the nominee, and in his part of the country the direct representative of His Majesty has sometimes been a little damaged. I am persuaded, however, that this good brother would dry the ticket if by any chance a prohibition plank should find its way into the Democratic platform.

I supposed, of course, that there was a reason for all of this, and asked for it. The dear old elder told me that the Byrd bill and the Mann bill and kindred legislation had damaged the grape growers of his county thousands of dollars. There is a wine-making establishment in Charlottesville that used to buy all of the grapes around all of the farmers in the regions around about could grow. The Byrd bill had knocked this business silly, comparatively speaking. Of course, the makers of the wine can sell their product away from home, but the local trade is cut off entirely, for under the law if a citizen of the county wants a bottle of the product that has made his county famous he must order it from a merchant in Richmond or Washington or maybe from a dispenser in some State that has such things.

Wine made from the grape is a mighty innocent kind of a thing, and grape culture in many counties of Virginia is a tremendous industry, in which a great deal of money has been made. The Byrd bill and the Mann and the other authors of curious laws could not be induced to loosen up just a little bit on this rather drastic law?

**Seeing Is Knowing.**

A man from Pittsylvania county is my authority for the statement that here never was before in the history of the country such interest in the matter of good roads. There seems to be no trouble now, according to my informant, about raising money for good roads.

The explanation is easy. Several years ago, by the efforts of some very good people in the county, broken up by wide-awake business men of Danville about two miles of macadam road was built between Danville and a country precinct called "Design." At Design several roads merged into one. All of the people who hauled tobacco and other things over the few miles of good road had their eyes opened,

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**Weldon Social News.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Weldon, N. C., August 20.—Miss Rebe Johnston, of Littleton, is visiting Miss May Cheek.  
Miss Eva C. Davis left Thursday for Norfolk to spend some time with friends.

Miss Emily Campbell, of Norfolk, who has been spending some weeks here, returned home Thursday.  
Miss Bessie Dunn, of Scotland Neck, spent the past few days here with Misses Tighman.  
Misses Sallie Garlick, of Henderson, and Elizabeth Garlick, of Emporia, are spending the week with friends here.  
Miss Lula Lee, of Emporia, who has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. Clay, has returned home.  
Miss Mabel Vincent, of Jarratts, Va., after a delightful visit to her aunt, Mrs. F. J. Bounds, has returned home.  
Mrs. F. J. Bounds, who has returned home from a visit to friends at Jackson.  
Mrs. Sallie Gooch, Miss Virgie Lackhart and Miss Virginia Leigh spent the week at Ocean View.  
Dr. L. E. Green gave a splendid dinner on Mush Island Tuesday, in celebration of his birthday. A large number of friends was present. Those from a distance were Dr. G. G. Thomas, chief surgeon of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company; Dr. R. L. S. Price, B. R. Tucker, all of Richmond; Walter Buckner, division superintendent of the Southern Express Company; Dr. L. A. Clark, of

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